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Main Farmer.

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S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.

Our Home, Our Country and Our Brother Man.

One Man.

The influence of one man in a community

whether for good or evil, has frequently been

a subject of public and private comment.

That man has a good one, the influence which

flows from his life will be beneficial and con-

tributing, elevating all about him to a higher plane

of existence, and consequently greater happi-

ness and usefulness. But if on the other hand

he is a person of bad repute, what a blighting

influence goes out from his presence and how

his vile acts drag others down to a more

misérable level than he himself occupies. And

who that exercises any observation whatever

on things passing around him, does not know

of many instances of which the above are

faithful examples. Now what is the moral

and social life is also true in practical life.

The mechanic who is always steady at his em-

ployment, who works diligently every day, is

by this simple process exerting an influ-

ence for good upon the whole community in

he is known, and especially upon the young.

A farmer who reads, thinks and labors—who

year after year goes on with his farm work and

improvements, is silently but surely exerting

an influence upon his brother farmers, that

time cannot efface, and that will sooner or later

yield positively beneficial results. One such

farmer as this in a neighborhood is a power for

good. Travel over the State, and observe the

condition of farms, buildings, fences &c. You

come into a neighborhood where the houses are

poor, the barns old and weather beaten, the

fences broken, and everywhere the indications

of a run down, ship-shod, half hearted, dead-

and-alive condition of things—and on enquiry

you find this may all be traced to the pecu-

liar influence of a single individual, who has

corrupted and demoralized the entire neighbor-

hood. If there were decent men in it, they

would gradually all his neighbors have becom-

as low and indifferent as himself, and the whole

district one upon which our communi-ation

would be exercised. Or on the other hand

you enter a community where everything is

orderly and respectable, where society is good,

where newspapers and books are read, where

the houses are neat and embellished within

and without with the adornments of art and nature,

where there are fertile fields, good fences

and neat stock—and generally you find these

conditions of similar beginnings, the influ-

ence of the one man power. Mr. A. began to

fix up; he repaired his barn, set out fruit

and ornamental trees, painted his house; and

when these were done, put in operation a plan

for the improvement of the school house, that

the children might have a better place in which

to go to school, and that they might take

pride in keeping it neat and clean. His next

step was to get the influence of his example; and

he likewise planted trees, and subscribed for

magazines and got better stock—and before

they were aware of it, found themselves better

off, more thoughtful, of happy contented and

satisfied. And over and over instances such as

these are common all over our State, and are they

not to nature?

Another instance of the good influence of

one active, intelligent, progressive farmer is

being seen all over the State in the work which

our Farmers' Clubs and various other orga-

nizations for mutual improvement, are doing in

the community; and it is in this direction that

Mr. Thompson's "History of Maine Horses."

We enjoyed a pleasant call, one day last

week, from Mr. J. W. Thompson of Canton,

the energetic young man who has had the cour-

age and pluck to compile the materials neces-

sary for a "History of Maine Horses," and

whose belief in the needs and value of such a

work, are so strong as to prompt him to the

specdy publication of the same—a piece of in-

formation which all interested in the matter

will rejoice at. More than two years ago—

and sometimes previous to the publication of

Gen. Tilton's "Messenger and his Descend-

ants," in this journal—Mr. Thompson was

quietly at work gathering facts about the old

timed horses of our State that have made rec-

ords for themselves and for the State, by their

performances abroad; and the publication

of that article, while it supplied him with

little that was new, only increased his enthu-

siasm in the work before him, and he bent to

the task with renewed vigor. From that time

to the present, he has "allowed no grass to grow

under his feet," and by correspondence, travel

and personal inquiry, has now the satisfaction

of seeing his work nearly or quite complete.

When he was on a tour for the gathering

of material, from the lips of personal witness-

es, and his route embraced calls on Ben-

jamin H. Hallowell, Col. L. C. Loring, Hallowell,

Mej. Chas. E. Tilton, George Robinson

and others of this place; Mr. McFarland of

Fairfield; Mr. C. C. Emery of Skowhegan;

Mr. Nathan Weston of Madison, and several

parties in Anson, where he was to ascertain

the "true history of Fanny Pullen,"—the

whole route covering more than three hundred

miles, and with his own team. He has picked

up from every source old and new, pub-

lished and unpublished, facts and materials;

and we have little doubt that when his book

is published it will show how industrious and

patient he has been. Mr. G. H. Bailey of

Woodford's, with that generosity which is

characteristic of him, placed in Mr. Thompson's

hands his own collections relating to "Maine

Horses," and from other sources he has

been considerably aided. We may reasonably

look for a book that will be indispensable to

every horseman in Maine. Besides the history

of Maine horses it will comprise in alphabetical

order, a register of all the horses whose

names have been claimed in Maine during the

past two years, and will also be illustrated

with portraits of some of the representative

ones of our State. We learn that the copy

will be placed in the printer's hands by the

middle or last of the month, and the book—

which will form something over two hundred

pages—may be looked for within the space of

two or three months.

We have, from the first knowledge obtained

of this work and its author, had a deep inter-

est in the progress and success—not only be-

cause we believed it to be a necessary and

important work to be performed, but because

we felt sure the work was to be thoroughly

and satisfactorily done. The spirit of energy

which Mr. Thompson has manifested in his

undertaking, are most commendable, and we

are glad the work has been performed by a

man who is not yet thirty years of age. It shows

that well directed and persistent courage will

accomplish.

Hussey's Cottage Architecture.

HUSSEY'S NATIONAL COTTAGE ARCHITECTURE;

or, Homes for Every One; Chiefly Low Priced Build-

ings, with Plans, Sections and Elevation. By C.

H. Hussey, Architect. New York: Orange Judd

Company. Boston, A. Williams & Co., 1874.

Price 50 cts.

Board of Agriculture.

(Reported for the Maine Farmer.)

Maine Board of Agriculture and

Farmers' Convention.

SECOND DAY—EVENING.

In the evening Hon. Harris Lewis, President

of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, deliv-

ered his lecture on

Milk Its Taints, Odors and Adulterations

which was illustrated by the lactometer and

cream-gauge. He commenced by remarking

that milk is a food, and that it is a food

made milk a study, and yet he knew but little

about it. As an article of food, milk stands

in the front rank, being the food that will

sustain life from the cradle to the grave; \$500-

000,000 worth of milk is produced annually

in the United States, and he believed it might

be doubled in three years. When drawn from

the cow it often contains taints and odors,

some of which can be traced to the food and

some to the condition of the cow. He illus-

trated the component parts of milk with cubes,

shown to the audience. Milk is a little

heavy, and it is heavier than water; and

water and butter is lighter than cream.

The specific gravity of a bulk of milk equal to

1000 cc. of water will weigh 1003 cc.; but

not 912 cc.

Touching on the adulteration of milk he

said the lactometer is not a certain test

of milk, but it is a test of the quality of the

cream, and it is a test of the quality of the

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Some previous to publication. He then spoke

of the system of positive knowledge under-

lying the professions of the law, theology and

medicine, of the schools and means for obtain-

ing an education in these branches, and of the

universality of the principles there taught. If

a young man was to become a lawyer, he

would have to study the law, and he would

have to read the same course of reading which

he read in one town or city in Maine, or

another, and he would have to read the same

course of reading which he read in one town

or city in Maine, or another, and he would

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